

Remarks

Claims 22-24, 26, 27, 29-32 and 34-47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph, in that the recitation and claims 22, 30, 40 and 43 reciting the limitation “the carbon filter combination” lacked insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation in the claim. Applicant has amended each of claims 22, 23, 40 and 43 to recite “the catalyzed foam filter and wall flow filter combination.” The amendment is believed to fully address the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

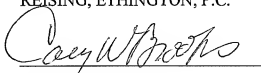
Claims 29 and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, fourth paragraph, as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of the previous claim. Claim 29 has been amended to depend from claim 22 and to recite “wherein the wall flow filter comprises a porous wall, a portion of which is spaced a distance from the rear face of the catalyzed foam filter.” The amendment is believed to overcome the rejection. Claim 47 has been amended to depend from claim 22 and is believed to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Claim 22 was objected to because of the recitation in line 5 of “filter circumferentially_surrounds” appears to have an extra underscore mark between “circumferentially” and “surrounds” and the mark should be stricken. Applicant has deleted “circumferentially_surrounds” from claim 22 and inserted in place thereof “circumferentially surrounds” to remove the underscore mark. In doing so, Applicant does not give up any claim scope and is simply correcting a typographical error.

Applicant believes the above amendments fully address all of the rejections and objections to the claims and places the case in condition for allowance. However, if Applicant’s counsel has inadvertently overlooked an issue, a telephone interview with the Examiner is respectfully requested to authorize action necessary to send this case to issue.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests notice of allowance of claims 22-24, 26-27, 29-39 and 34-47.

Respectfully submitted,
REISING, ETHINGTON, P.C.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Cary W. Brooks", is written over a horizontal line.

Cary W. Brooks
Registration No. 33,361
P. O. Box 4390
Troy, MI 48099-4390
(248) 689-3500

CWB/gc

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